

Youngs Point. Ia.
Feb. 24th 1863

Cousin Sam

I am going to write
you a bit of an epistle this even-
ing. Mostly for my own amu-
sement. To you I must look
for anything very interesting.
I have got to sit up until 7
o'clock and must contrive some
way to make the time. I
don't think I owe you any letters
Sam. I believe I will try to
for every one I receive. but I
expect I have more time to
spare than you do so you are
excusable. I have heard some
news lately, something that has
caused me much uneasiness.
My latest advices from Fairfield
report you as being wounded
with a shell but did not state
what the prospect was for your recovery
if you are able to write. please
state the circumstances in your
next letter. When you were hit
if your wounds are painful &c.

We are laying her in illness
apt. haven't burned any powder
in this recent attack on Victoria
except a little on the 22nd firing
a national salute. Our gun boat
hit the rebel ship with a shot
run and then as if for this all
is quiet. Since I have been
writing I have heard heavy can-
nonading below her. I suppose
it is from our gun boats that have
run past the city. They are firing
quite rapidly now. There is
a large fleet of gun boats and
masted boats here. The report
in camp is that they are going
to shell the town in a few days.
but I don't believe all I hear
or see either now or days.

I have got a contract made for
a servant. Sam. What are you

Thinking that he takes care of my
horses - blacks my boots cuts wood,
and does all the chores finally
so you see I am lazier than
ever now. I pity poor folks
that - haven't got my negro.
It doesn't cost me any more
to have a servant than it won-
ld put to. So I concluded I
might just as well get on and
take this way as easy as possi-
ble. it is hard enough now the
best. We are having very plea-
sant weather now. It hasn't
rained for three days. which
is something quite remarkable.
The ground is getting pretty
near dry. but I don't imag-
ine this fine weather is going
to last long. I shouldn't be
surprised if it rained to-mor-
row. it looks very much like it
now. Sam Webster
paid us a visit yesterday. he
has been quite sick. but is ne-
arly well now. the regiment
of Kings Co. went on a
trip up the river over a
week ago and has not returned
yet. Henry and I
are enjoying good health for
this country. or not sick now.
Then three days in a week
Henry does not stand it
quite as well as I do. is sick
rather the most I think. I
have a letter from Jo. a few days
ago. he and his are having great
fun at home. he says they
talk of buying the old Gen-
eral and running the inter-
fer themselves. The last I
heard from Gen. he was doing
well. You may think that
paper is scarce by my using
this. but I have a plenty. and
draw our statements. I wish we
could draw stamps for paper
we getting pretty low. I am
getting this arrangement full

Recd March 12/63

Oavis Hackett
Barebco, Sauk Co
Wisconsin

